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March 4, 2015

To:

Joint Committee on Labor and Public Employees

Rep. Angel Arce, 4<sup>th</sup> District Rep: Rick Lopes, 24<sup>th</sup> District Rep. Edwin Vargas, 6<sup>th</sup> District

From: Robert Shepard, Senior Property Manager, Albert B. Ashforth Inc.

Re: Testimony for the PUBLIC HEARING 03/05/15 Listed as 1 E

I stand in opposition to the bill HB 6877 an act concerning "A minimum work week for persons performing Janitorial Work".

This bill will NOT achieve what I believe "may be" an attempt to "help" those persons providing janitorial services in the numerous facilities that will fall under this guideline. In fact it will do the EXACT OPPOSITE! History is rife with seemingly good intentions paving the road to hell and this will be no exception.

The following are reasons I cannot understand the reasoning behind such a bill:

- It seems the intent of this is to create more "full time" workers in lieu of "part time"
- Full time workers are mandated to have health insurance which will increase the cost to the employer and the employee.
- This will certainly increase the costs to property owners for all services provided by vendors.
- If costs increase to the vendor this cost is always passed through to Owners / Operators etc. This increases the cost of doing business. If business costs increase the next logical step is to reduce the cost by removing the increase fire the worker! Great idea right?
- The responsibility of the government IS to remove obstacles for companies to do business. It is NOT the responsibilities of the government to dictate how run a business or control private industry.
- Small Businesses, the true economic engine of this country, will certainly pay the
  heaviest price as they are already overburdened trying to comply with the regulations
  imposed.
- There are thousands of good folk in Connecticut working their hearts out providing an
  excellent service under the ability to work part time. For many this is supplemental
  income which is the way they survive. They WORK for it! Forcing this upon them will
  no doubt impact their schedules, in many cases force them to quit, no doubt in other
  cases cause them to be terminated.
- Is increasing the unemployment role, causing family stress, hurting the people government relies on most, increasing the pressure for small business to compete also a good idea?

As a person connected to the industry this will affect, representing numerous Ownerships and Management organizations we urge you to vote NO on this bill!